

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY**                      **7:00 P.M.**                      **APRIL 7, 2010**

This Regular Meeting of Council was called to order on the above-stated date at the above-stated time after the Pledge of Allegiance and a Moment of Silence by President of Council Regis McLaughlin with the following Members of Council present:

**RC-1      PRESENT:      FAWN WALKER, ALFRED TEDESCO,  
                                 RICHARD DELLAPENNA, REGIS  
                                 McLAUGHLIN, MICHAEL CHEREPKO,  
                                 DARRYL SEGINA, LORETTA DIGGS**

**ABSENT:      NONE**

Pastor Warren Smith of St. John's Lutheran Church led the prayer.

Also present were Mayor James Brewster, City Administrator Dennis Pittman, City Solicitor J. Jason Elash, and members of the Administration.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION:      Mr. Dellapenna moved, seconded by Mr. Segina,  
                                 "To approve the minutes for the Public Hearing  
                                 of March 2, 2010 and the Regular Meeting of  
                                 March 3, 2010."**

**RC-2      YEAS:      WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
                                 McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7**  
**NAYS:      NONE..... 0**

Mayor Brewster asked Ms. Williams to read and Mr. McLaughlin to present the Proclamation.

Ms. Williams read the following Proclamation:

PROCLAMATION FOR McKEESPORT HOUSING CORPORATION

Whereas, McKeesport Housing Corporation (MHC) has a 25-year history of administering home rehabilitation construction programs in the City of McKeesport and surrounding communities and since 1985, over 675 low moderate income City homeowners have received financial assistance through MHC making necessary home improvements affordable. Additionally, 86 landlords have received funding assistance through MHC to insure their rental properties were code compliant or free from the hazards of lead-based paint; and

Whereas, the MHC has created new tax base by fostering home ownership through a variety of programs for 50 families, during the last 25 years, 32 new homes have been constructed and 18 vacated tax-delinquent homes received rehabilitation before being sold to qualified buyers; and

Whereas, MHC was also the developer of Grandview Apartments, a 26 unit building for elderly residents constructed on the Grandview School site; and

Whereas, over the years, MHC has provided management oversight to City-sponsored projects including but not limited to the Emergency Shelter program, the Council of Governments Sidewalk program and the Opportunity Industrialization Emergency Furnace program; and

Whereas, the aforementioned programs have leveraged nearly \$12 million of investments in housing stock of the City of McKeesport; and

Whereas, the MHC remains committed to sustaining the affordability and the maintenance of the housing stock of the City of McKeesport as exemplified by 2010 MHC projects, the completion of \$300,000 in owner-occupied housing rehabilitation activities and \$450,000 in new housing development.

Now, therefore, as Mayor of the City of McKeesport, and on behalf of City Council and the residents of McKeesport, I do hereby extend our sincere appreciation to McKeesport Housing Corporation for their unselfish dedication to the welfare of our citizens and extend our best wishes on the occasion of their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

- Mayor Brewster said Billy Richards is Chairman of the Board. He said Les Petras is not here. He said with all the verbiage they heard, the fact of the matter is that this is an organization that is always up front. He said if someone needs an addition on the house, or a roof or something like that, that is what they are there for and they have been doing it for 25 years. He said that is a long time. He said they want to thank the organization, the Board and staff. He asked Bill if he would like to say something.
- Mr. Richards said thank you very much for the recognition. He said MHC is committed to the progress and maintaining the housing stock in the City of McKeesport.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

- Received a flyer from the Census Bureau called "What is March to the Mailbox?" It is a "Neighborhood Outreach Event" that will be carried out in hard-to-county areas where census employees and volunteers will walk through the area urging residents to complete their bar-coded questionnaire and mail it back. Ms. Williams said there is a gentleman here tonight to explain it.
- Received notification from the Post-Gazette that Propel McKeesport is top charter school.
- Received a copy of a letter that was sent by Angela Mayer, Staff Engineer, KU Resources, RE: Municipal Land Use Letter, Name of Applicant: Dan Sharek, Regional Industrial Development Corporation of Southwestern Pennsylvania.
- Received another letter from the U.S. Census Bureau on their mission.
- Received a copy of a letter that was sent by Dennis Davin, Director of the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County, to Dennis Pittman, RE: City of McKeesport, CITF Application. The grant was approved.
- Received a letter from Daniel Cessna, District Executive, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, RE: Allegheny County, Versailles Borough, Bridge Carrying Center Street Over Long Run.
- Received the Monthly Report for March for McKeesport Weed and Seed Initiative Activity.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

- Police Chief Washowich said he knows everyone is concerned about the orange tags on the vehicles that were abandoned or junk vehicles. He said 52 vehicles had orange tags placed on their windshields and the owners were notified that they would have 48 hours to remove their vehicles. He said 41 of those vehicles were actually removed by their owners. He said 11 of the vehicles remained behind, they were forced to enact the ordinance, and those vehicles were towed. He said one boat was towed from a neighborhood and 3 applications were distributed concerning handicapped parking in front of the residence. He said as far as arrest statistics, in the month of March there were 224 traffic citations. He said a big part of that is their aggressive driving initiative that they have going on in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. He said they had 326 physical criminal arrests. He said they had an active month in March. He said he had nothing further to report.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he has a question. He asked the Chief if they had removed one boat.
- Chief Washowich said one boat was towed.
- Mr. McLaughlin said was it removed off the street.
- Chief Washowich said yes, off the street he believes, yes sir.
- Mr. McLaughlin said are they moving boats off the streets.
- Chief Washowich said if they are in violation of the ordinance, yes. He said he would encourage anyone who has any complaints to forward them to his office and he will see to it that the Traffic Division responds promptly.

- Mr. McLaughlin said he will give him the information then.
- Public Works Director Nick Shermenti said Good Evening. He said he really does not have much to report other than it has not snowed much and they are still cleaning up. He said that as of Monday they got some trees off of the streets, the vacant lots and out of the neighborhoods. He said there were quite a few trees that were broken and damaged. He said they only have one chipper, so they started cleaning up the Park this past Monday. He said by this time next week, all the branches and other trees will be trimmed in the Park. He said they are also cleaning up all the ballfields and getting ready for all the leagues that are participating on those fields. He said they are also out cold patching and trash picking. He said he has been getting a lot of calls about potholes on Walnut Street between 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Street. He said the City went out and put plates over them. He said the State came out and looked at it but he does not know when they will be out to fix them. He said they are waiting for their bid tabulations from the TRCOG for their spring commodities and their asphalt prices. He said he just sent the paver out to get repaired. He said it might be costly. He said he is looking to see if they can get a backup, maybe lease or rent something from a contractor. He said they just notified the TRCOG that they will be participating next year in the salt bid as a continuation of their two-year contract. He said they did go 850 tons over their 3,000 ton order this past year but the bins are full and they have extra salt sitting outside at the Park. He said that put them approximately \$48,000 over their budget for salt. He said that is all he has to report.
- Mr. Malinchak said he has a question. He said he has a bill right here for \$64,000 for salt and he assumes that is part of it and wondered if that is correct.
- Mr. Shermenti said yes that is correct.

- Weed and Seed Director Sherry Ward said they have two grant applications that will be submitted on April 30. She said the first application is for salaries for the Law Enforcement Coordinator and the AID Team Coordinator at \$40,000 each. She said the second application is for the Law Enforcement Intervention Prevention Grant for \$75,000 with a match of \$7,500 required from the City. She said that grant will be used to implement the Boston Strategy that was applied by Harvard University in Boston. She said this strategy was applied by Harvard in Boston, has been replicated in Cincinnati, Highpoint NC, and all through the United States. She said the Boston Strategy has several different facets. She said first there is Operation Nightlight, which pairs probation officers with high-risk youth with guns, gangs, and drug activity in the target area during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. She said then there is also a saturation patrol, which pairs McKeesport Police with Probation Officers so that the Police can go into the taverns and homes without probable cause. She said the saturation patrol would work from 8:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. She said Operation Ceasefire is a coordinated City strategy that is established to deter firearms violence as a system focusing on intervention through coordination of knowledge of the City law enforcement and criminal justice agencies. She said the City would be working with the ATF. She said they would be working to find out the caliber of guns, the make, the region of origin, and time to crime. She said the next operation would be Violent Strike Force, which would be established with 3 Officers, 2 Plainclothes Officers and the District Attorney's office. She said the Intervention Prevention: A Boston Strategy is a 7-prong approach. She said Project Reach would be for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Founder's Hall and would be an intervention with referrals from the Magistrates Office and Resource Officers. She said that would be with clergy from Reverend Coleman's group and some of the ex-teachers who will be doing counseling with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. She said they will do Family

Interventions using 2 caseworkers who will go into the homes of these children who have been identified through the School District and the Magistrate's Office. She said the caseworkers would be working with the families. She said they also would be doing Bridge the Gap with the Salvation Army. She said these families would be mandated to go to the Salvation Army for a 12-week course. She said if they want more details on this, she can get those for them. She said Weed and Seed will be providing the CISP program, through the Allegheny County Courts System, with equipment for their community service project. She said they are going to have a bereavement. She said Reverend Coleman is going to donate her time and Weed and Seed is going to donate \$500 for paper products and office equipment. She said if there is a homicide in the City, then Reverend Coleman will be on call for the Police Department to come to the scene and do bereavement for the family. She said they have call-in sessions that are also part of the Boston Strategy which are four sessions a year for high risk and first time offenders. She said the sessions are conducted by the Police Department, the District Attorney's office, Clergy, a Social Worker, community leaders, and the families of the homicide victims. She said she can give Council more detail on that procedure if they would like, but it is being conducted right now in Pittsburgh. She said Weed and Seed will have resource officer and police training which will be conducted by Womansplace and the District Attorney's office. She said that training will be for domestic violence, PFA, and teen dating abuse. . She said they have also applied for a grant for the University of Pittsburgh's "Bringing Home Violence Prevention Project." She said that application will be submitted to the D.A.'s office. She said that will be a summer violence prevention program at Crawford, Harrison, Outreach, YMCA, LaRosa Boy's and Girl's Club, Mon Yough Community Services and the McKeesport Family Center. She said they will also have a leadership project in the schools which will be conducted by

the University of Pittsburgh's Math Program which will be the leadership violence prevention project for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders at Founder's Hall. She said they did submit another grant for Three Rivers Community Foundation for \$4,000 for an eco-friendly project, which they will not know if they will receive it until June. She said that is all she has unless someone has any questions.

- Mayor Brewster said this is part of the comprehensive Public Safety program that Chief Washowich and he are working on. He said to make sure they are not stepping on each other's toes, Sherry should make sure she goes over the details of all of these with the Chief. He said this is basically what they want to have citywide. He said the Weed and Seed covers certain areas of the City. He said basically what they want to do when they have an act of violence, they want to be able to have volunteers who will go into the homes of the victim and have contact with the families when the police cannot. He said these volunteers may be able to talk to the families when those people do not want to talk to the police or are witnesses. He said they have another group that is assigned to this bunch of people and they work this all through the investigation. He said it is much bigger than just the Weed and Seed Grant application. He said he would like the Chief to meet with Sherry and go over this.
- Ms. Ward said the Chief is on the law enforcement board. She said the law enforcement board is made up of the McKeesport Police Department, the District Attorney's office, the School District Resource Officer, McKeesport School District Head of Security, PA Adult Parole Officer, Juvenile Probation Officer, McKeesport Public Housing Security, McKeesport Salvation Army, Bethlehem Baptist Church, Womansplace and two social workers.

- Ms. Walker said she has a question. She said the two grants that they are applying for are they \$40,000 for salaries.
- Ms. Ward said that money is for salaries. She said she is even having problems with her salary because they don't want to pay her that much. She said the other one is law enforcement and a small portion for intervention.
- Ms. Walker said at that call-in session, did she ever find . . . because she was at that meeting where they welcomed ex-gang members to be at a call-in session. She said did Sherry ever find them.
- Ms. Ward said yes, they are going to be coordinating that with Reverend Coleman and Andre Gissendammer.
- Ms. Walker said they are going to find these people.
- Ms. Ward said yes, in fact Andre had speakers for the youth summit.
- Ms. Walker said they can talk about it later, but Ms. Ward had mentioned about case workers and juvenile probation officers working with the police. She said is that going to actually go on in the community and how are they going to identify those kids.
- Ms. Ward said they will identify the kids through the probation officers because they are already mandated by the court, so they are already identified. She said the ones that are at-risk, first time offenders would be identified by Riazzi's office or Resource Officers. She said the reason they are doing this is because if they are first time offenders, hopefully if they comply and go to these courses and the call-in sessions, they will eradicate these offenses from their records.

- Ms. Walker said will they actually go into the homes.
- Ms. Ward said yes, they have to have a permission slip from the parents.
- Ms. Walker said is there going to be any help to assist Pastor Coleman.
- Mayor Brewster said this will all be coordinated through the Chief's office. He said no one is going into anyone's home without it being overseen by the Police Department. He said they are the professionals. He said if there is a need to go with them, they will be assisted by the Police. He said this is not going to be just a bunch of volunteers walking around. He said it will not be unbridled.
- Ms. Ward said these kids will be identified and the parents will give permission. She said it is up to them if they want to participate in the program. She said they can even put families into strengthening family programs.
- Ms. Walker said thank you.
- Mayor Brewster said May 3 will be the ribbon cutting for Marshall Drive. He said there are still some minor punch list items to be done. He said the lights are required by law to be flashing for a week before it is officially opened to give drivers notice that there is a light there. He said if they see the light flashing there, they will know it is required by PennDOT. He said Nick's people did a great job on it so they expect a great turnout for that ribbon cutting. He said it will be May 3 at noon.
- Mayor Brewster said the ribbon cutting for the new trail is on April 30. He said if they have not been down to Kane Hospital, from Kane down to the point of the Yough and the Mon, it is tremendous. He said Nick's men did some work down at Gergely Park repairing some benches, taking out some dead

shrubs and trees. He said it is a real asset to the area. He said they are working on the portion from Kane to the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, which is not City money, but money that the Trail Committee obtained, from the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge to the Palisades. He said they are starting to see more and more people on bikes coming through McKeesport in the evening and that is a real pleasant sight. He said that is a perfect segway into the ribbon cutting they had yesterday on Market Street where they opened up the basketball courts and refurbished Moran Field, which is opened to the City. He said it is a place where older folks can drive and park and have some time to themselves without all the darkness and worry about safety. He said yesterday as soon as they cut the ribbon and up through today there has been a real crowd there enjoying that asset. He said that asset is available to everyone. He said he is very proud of that. He said it took 50 years to make an improvement in that area and it will take some pressure off the local parklets. He said he has gotten calls from parents where the older guys go into the playgrounds and play basketball and the little kids can't use it. He said he is hoping this will alleviate some of that pressure and the local playgrounds will be reserved for the younger kids.

- Mr. McLaughlin said he read the article in the paper today and the quote that Lou Jabbour said about the balls and the bats. He said he was the guy that sat there for 8 hours with two balls and two bats and made 25¢ an hour.
- Mayor Brewster said he didn't want to bring up Rege's age again.
- Mr. McLaughlin said Sam LaRosa used to ride him around in his old Studebaker and they used to put two balls and two bats at all the fields.

- Mayor Brewster said and they were still there when you went back. He said if they just start at Marshall Drive and visualize a traffic light then go down Walnut Street and see the Biros Development; see the new shops, a hairstylist and Rite Aid, Pre-Coat is coming down and there are three or four people interested in that site. He said then there is Book Country, one of the largest distributors of books on the internet in the world. He said then if you go down through Christy Park and see the different businesses that have opened up and then see the sidewalk from the Sunoco Station to the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge that dozens of people use to either walk or bike on. He said then the buildings across from Mars have been demolished removing a tremendous eyesore and much work has been done in Harrison Village down through Water Street down to the Palisades. He said that corridor is a major corridor where people come through the City who do not live in the City and now have a much better impression of the City than they had before. He said this is a vision not an exact science. He said when people ride through here they form opinions about the City. He said he does not like to leave those opinions to the media. He said sometimes they have to dress themselves up and they have done that. He said they should be proud of that. He said he thinks people walking down Walnut Street on a mud path is an embarrassment and they fixed that. He said Council was a part of that. He said it may be just a fence and a sidewalk but they have to be visionaries in this business. He said they are still working on some potential occupants for the EchoStar site. He said he and Mr. Pittman are going to try and arrange a meeting in the next week or two with another firm that has expressed an interest. He said the demolition is proceeding. He said they spent the last week or so going to sites trying to prioritize them because everyone wants the house next to them torn down. He

said that in some cases there are people still in them. He said they are trying to get to the very worst ones and the major corridors first. He said that is working out pretty well. He said Council knows about the new police cars. He said last night Council was updated on a potential river rescue boat that Chuck Margliotti and the firemen have been working on for him. He said it is his hope that he and the Fire Department will be able to come to Council in the next couple of weeks for their approval to order that boat through the CD funds. He said when they have a first class Marina and two rivers they need to have the ability and the equipment to go out there and help people when they need help. He said that is all he has.

- Mr. Malinchak said he has a question. He said yesterday there was a question about the cost of the ramps over on the Dravosburg Bridge. He said the Mayor was able to get an unbelievably good price by getting involved with the 12<sup>th</sup> Congressional District. He said would that apply to this situation or is that out of the question.
- Mayor Brewster said he would like to answer that question but he is also glad Ray brought it up for another reason. He said the Dravosburg Bridge project is one he wanted to discuss. He said the Dravosburg Bridge is a \$37 million project. He said obviously it is not a City project but the ramps at the end of the bridge going into Glassport and McKeesport have gotten a lot of publicity, for what reason he has no idea. He said someone wanted to know why he was not at the meeting. He said there is some debate about the ownership for a couple of hundred feet off the end of the bridge. He said his attitude is fix the bridge. He said they don't have the money right now to pay from Marathon Oil down to the bridge. He said he doesn't want to speak for Glassport but thinks they have a similar issue on their end. He said he doesn't think the tail should wag

the dog. He said it will take a while for that to happen. He said he is sure that between the State Reps, the County Executive and the Mayors, they will find a way to get that paved. He said no they cannot use the 12<sup>th</sup> District for that. He said but, that is a perfect lead in to West Fifth Avenue. He said one of the problems with discussing these things in public, which they want to do because they are good stories, they often disclose dollar amounts that are available. He said people will say it is wonderful that the Governor gave the City \$1 million for paving West Fifth Avenue. He said that was in the paper for six months and then they went out to bid. He said he got a real sneaky suspicion that the people who read that paper were also contractors interested in that job. He said all of the bids came in over \$1 million. He said that is what happens when you are forced to talk specifics. He said having said that, the bid came in at \$1,089,008.23 and another \$80,000 for engineering. He said they are about \$160,000 short. He said if they add another \$100,000 for the ramp, then they are \$260,000 short and the City does not have it. He said they have been in this situation before and they have always been able to find the money. He said tonight, hopefully Council will approve the West Fifth Avenue bid. He said Ray works pretty close with them on the bid and there are probably some specs in there .... He said when they do these things they put certain things in for handicap ramps, concrete this and dig this up, and it is much more complicated than just putting down asphalt. He said they think if they go through this with the contractor and PennDOT because it is a PennDOT project, they think they can eat into that \$1,089,000 and get it down. He said hopefully they can get it down. He said it was his hope that they would come in around \$700,000 then with the other \$300,000 he could go and do the ramp at the end of

the bridge. He said that did not work and they have all heard his opinion why. He said we talk too much.

- Mr. Malinchak said can they legally go out and couple the ramps with West Fifth Avenue and maybe hit their target.
- Mayor Brewster said they can legally do it and he does not want to say too much because they are dealing with PennDOT and the County. He said there are a lot of people with their hands in the project. He said the answer is yes, but can they get the bureaucracies together at this level and come to a reasonable conclusion as to how to do it. He said he has found a lot more money than \$100,000 so if they get creative, he can find a way to do this. He said in defense of the County and PennDOT, they are held to certain standards with regard to certain specs. He said their storm water requirements, piping, electrical conduit and other things under the bridge and ramps that are involved here. He said it gets a little complex at times. He said legally he thinks they can work with those groups to do that. He said because people tend to dwell on the negative, the road is bad and he really wonders . . . the number of phone calls he has gotten from people who don't live in town, it is ignorant. He said had the governor not given them the \$1 million, that road would not be getting paved. He said they would be filling holes. He said they should not be worrying about what has not yet been done but what they have been given the opportunity to get done. He said this money does not drop out of the sky. He said the State has a \$3 billion shortfall. He said he is very thankful they got the \$1 million. He said they also got the \$500,000 for Marshall Drive. He said he wanted to give Nick credit, that job was a \$1.2 million job four years ago and it would have probably been \$1.5 million, then Nick found the 12<sup>th</sup> REC and they were able to do it for \$500,000.

- Mr. Malinchak said the Mayor paved himself into a corner. He said he took a \$1.2 million job and got it done for substantially less. He said why not another rabbit out of the hat for the Dravosburg ramps.
- Mayor Brewster said he thinks this project is a little more complicated. He said he is not ruling them out. He said they don't do paving. He said the City crew did the paving on Marshall Drive. He said also on the Agenda tonight .... He said the whole project was \$750,000. He said it went from \$1.5 million job to \$750,000 of which \$500,000 came from the Governor and then \$250,000 came from the gaming money. He said it was from an initial application through Sean Logan and then later the money was moved to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County who has graciously agreed to accept their application and approve it. He said it takes a lot of creativity and vision on a lot of people's parts. He said if Nick did not find the 12<sup>th</sup> REC, he is not sure the Governor would have given them \$1.2 million to do Marshall Drive and it would not have gotten done.
- Mr. Malinchak said does the Mayor have a progress report on the Flyover Ramp.
- Mayor Brewster said the Flyover Ramp is supposed to go out to bid in April. He said hopefully they will break ground by the end of the year. He said again there has been an awful lot of discussion about property requirements and the taking of property. He said the more they talk about it, the more complex it gets, so he is not going to talk about it anymore. He said it is exciting and on target. He said people say how did they get \$13 million to build a Flyover Ramp and why can't they use it to tear down the houses and pave West Fifth Avenue. He said it doesn't work that way. He said Congressman Doyle was involved with that

and in fact they were \$6 million short and Dan Onorato was able to find that money. He said those rabbits are being pulled from multiple hats. He said were it not for Congressman Doyle and County Executive Onorato, that ramp would not be going in. He said yes, the delay of the construction .... He said he was sitting where Rege is and Joe Bendel was sitting here when they first started talking about the flyover ramp. He said that project has probably gone from \$3 million to \$13 million in that time. He said that was because one person wrote a letter, said forget about the ramp, and let's spend it over here. He said they don't have the discretion to do that. He said they don't have the luxury or the control to do that. He said what they do have to do as elected officials is to go to those sources, the County, State and Federal governments, and say they have put together a plan and a vision which represents 24,000 people and thousands of others that go through their town. He said their job is to convince other elected officials that McKeesport's vision and plan is the one that should be funded. He said McKeesport has been very lucky and hopefully by the end of the year they will see ground breaking up there.

- Mr. Segina said getting back to the Mansfield Bridge. He said he thinks they can all assume that McKeesport and Glassport did not build those ramps. He said it took someone with the heavy equipment, money and fortitude to do something like that. He said how did they assume control of that where the City owns it now.
- Mayor Brewster said he doesn't want to keep talking about that thing or he is going to get himself in more trouble. He said why are they fixated on a \$100,000 piece of a \$37 million project. He said no one has asked him about the Bridge; it might fall down. He said why are they fixated on this piece; they shouldn't be. He said he will answer

Darryl's question. He said does everyone here remember the Flyover Ramp issue? He said how many times have they been asked who is going to own the ramp. He said they have actually had technically people wonder who is going to handle 40 feet off of Lysle Boulevard. He said he keeps saying who cares, they need the ramp. He said that is how, there was probably someone there back then like him then saying don't worry about it.

- Mr. Segina said he was just wondering if there is a contract. He said if they do own it and worse comes to worse, why not put a toll booth there for anyone who is leaving town. He said that will pay for it. He said he will ....
- Mayor Brewster said remember who said that, it was not the Mayor.
- Mr. Segina said then PennDOT will be running down there saying they will pay for it, get the toll booth out of there.
- Mayor Brewster said he is done.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

- Mr. Tedesco said he wants to respond to the lance that the public officials received from the Daily News for not attending that meeting. He said he feels he owes the City an explanation of why he wasn't there. He said he works a full-time job and gets off at 4:30. He said he works in Pittsburgh and gets home at 5:30. He said he believes that meeting was at 1:00 in the afternoon and he could not make it. He said he does want to assure the citizens of this City that he was not negligent in his duties because the meeting was not at a time he could have made it. He said if it would have been in the evening, he would

have gone. He said he attended the previous meetings in January and if there are any other meetings, he will attend.

- Mayor Brewster said that in all honesty they have dwelled on this meeting too long. He said first of all, he scheduled the first couple of meetings. He said he told Mr. Pittman that from this point forward that any further discussion on the ramps should take place in the Mayor's office. He said it is not that big of an issue and it should not be news. He said he appreciates A.J.'s effort. He said he was having the same problem because people do work and they could not attend a 1:00 meeting.
- Mr. McLaughlin said they schedule meetings at their convenience, not for anyone else.
- Ms. Walker said she wanted to thank the Mayor, Ms. Bauer and the Housing Authority and everyone who had anything to do with the basketball courts at Harrison Village as well as for the financial backing for the demolition. She said she thinks that is something that was long overdue. She said she wants to thank the Mayor and Ms. Bauer for going after that money. She said she knows at some past meetings she has been asking questions about the Weed and Seed money and budgeting and she did get a chance to meet with Ms. Ward, talk with her, and share some of her ideas about some of the things she wants to do. She said they will continue to discuss that. She said she is happy to hear that there are some programs being developed to target specific age groups for some of the kids that are actually going to the shootings and picking up the guns and living in that environment. She said she is happy to see there are programs being developed around that. She said she wants to have more discussions around how it is going to be developed and how it is going to be done. She said she is happy it is being done. She said she would like to thank the Council for listening to her yesterday and for allowing One Vision, One Life to come in and

do a presentation for the Council. She said there are a lot of people in McKeesport, groups and organizations, who are doing things in the City that are hitting some of these issues. She said they have after school programs in Harrison and Crawford. She said her church, Rainbow Temple, has Operation Save Our Youth that is working in coalition with Bethlehem Baptist Church. She said the McKeesport Concerned Citizens' Committee is going to do the Rally in the Valley. She said on the morning of the Rally in the Valley they are also going to do a walk, ride and run on August 7. She said on July 17 in Harrison Village, she and the MACC with Rainbow Temple are going to do a Community Day down near Harrison Village and use the courts to have a three-on-three tournament, pony rides, and horse rides. She said she would appreciate Council and the Mayor's support with that. She said there are things actually being done. She said she just wanted to put that out there. She said there are a lot of people saying there is nothing being done. She said they cannot do this alone, there has to be an effort with the community, including the City, the Weed and Seed or any other organization that actually wants to come in and do things. She said she just wanted to let everyone know that there are people actually doing things and she will be in discussion with the Weed and Seed as well as trying to bring in other organizations to design more specific programs to hit the age group that is actually doing some of the shootings.

- Mr. Dellapenna had nothing to report.
- Mr. Segina said since the Mayor took up so much time, he will exceed his time if he said what he was going to say. He said he will say he noticed a lot of new faces in the crowd along the regulars. He said thank you for coming and being interested in the City Council's workings.
- Ms. Diggs said she went to the African American Convention in Harrisburg which Top Magazine has every year. She said the

politicians were all there, Tom Corbett, Jack Wagner, except Dan Onorato did not show.

- Mayor Brewster said he was sure County Executive Onorato was working.
- She said they met a Senator from Philadelphia, Anthony Williams, who has almost as much money as Dan Onorato. She said it was in both papers this morning. She said that is all she has to say.
- Mr. Cherepko said Mr. Tomasic will be speaking this evening before Council regarding the Census 2010. He said Mr. Tomasic called him because he was having a difficult time getting the Census paperwork returned to the government. He said he told Mr. Tomasic to contact Chris Lenhart and the Fawcett Plan Task Force. He said Mr. Tomasic did make that contact. He said he personally wants to thank Chrissy and the Task Force for assisting Mr. Tomasic. He said he believes they are going to be going along with Mr. Tomasic this weekend. He said the Fawcett Plan Task Force also had lunch with the Easter Bunny. He said it was a great time and there were lots of kids. He said all too often he thinks this is something they take for granted. He said he is personally thanking the Fawcett Plan Task Force for these two things. He said they have volunteers on numerous different boards and Task Forces throughout this City. He said they often take that for granted. He said he personally wants to thank them for all of their exhaustive efforts and the time that they put in. He said without them, they would not see nearly as much being accomplished.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he does not have much to say. He said he would like to echo what Mike just said about the Task Forces. He said there are Task Forces in every ward of McKeesport. He said they are putting one together one in Grandview now.

- Mayor Brewster said actually two Task Forces in Grandview. He said they are going to start two in Grandview. He said one is already started.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he personally believes that when the Task Force is going to have some event, like chasing the Bunny or whatever, he thinks this Council should know. He said if they are not there, it is not their fault because they don't know what is going on half the time. He said he thinks that should be brought up at some of their Task Force meetings. He said that is all he has to say.

### **CITIZENS IN THE AUDIENCE:**

Mr. McLaughlin asked Jim Tomasic to come up to the podium to speak. He said please state your name and address.

- **JIM TOMASIC, 1514 BEECH STREET, NORTH BRADDOCK, PA 15104.** Mr. Tomasic said he is with the Census Department. He said everyone will soon be seeing these lawn signs around. He said this Saturday, April 10, from noon to 4:00 p.m. is called March to the Mailbox. He said they will see volunteers wearing hats and T-shirts like this (Mr. Tomasic showed Council and the audience a sample hat and T-shirt) standing in the corner and on the sidewalk in the neighborhood areas as well as heavily traveled areas to remind people that it is not too late to return the Census.
  - Mr. Segina asked if there was a deadline on that.
  - Mr. Tomasic said no, they will be starting in early May visiting properties. He said they will have signs like this and this reminding people to send it back in and it is done. He said he would like to quote things verbatim here. He said he would like to thank everyone who has mailed their

Census back because it is important. He said they are not here questioning people, they are here to have them encourage others to do the same thing. He said volunteers will converge on the neighborhoods, on streets, in high traffic areas to encourage residents to March to the Mailbox and mail back their Census forms. He said this is a volunteer mobilization in these targeted areas that will put out the message that it is not too late to mail back their household forms. He said obtaining sensitive responses in person is expensive and the responses on mailed back forms tends to be more accurate than those in person. He said it is quick and easy. He said they have a number of volunteers in Mr. Pittman's office who are willing to contact people and Mr. Cherepko has also volunteered to help. He said they are always looking for people to help. He said they have his name and his cell phone is 412-860-5546. He said they welcome any and all people who would like to participate. He said this Saturday they will be in various locations in the City of McKeesport. He said those are his three minutes and it will only take that much time to fill out their Census, they are quick and easy this year.

- Mr. Pittman said should they donate that hat and shirt to someone in the audience who is willing to take up the cause.
- Mr. Tomasic said if someone would like to, he has a shirt and hat with him. He said they can wait for him outside. He said thank you very much for the opportunity.

### **TABLED BILLS:**

**BILL #160: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY OFFICERS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE**

**COUNTY OF ALLEGHENY FOR THE REHABILITATION OF THE MANSFIELD BRIDGE.**

- Mr. McLaughlin said Bill #160 will remain on the Table.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION #2010-15 – BILL #20: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICERS TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES FOR A GRANT TO UNDERTAKE THE “McKEES POINT MARINA” PROJECT.**

**MOTION: Mr. Cherepko moved, seconded by Mr. Tedesco, “To adopt Bill #20.”**

**COMMENTS:**

- Mr. Segina said what is this grant for.
- Mr. Pittman said the City is going to submit an application to build a building to accommodate boat storage in the winter.

**RC-3** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-16 – BILL #21: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICERS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH LUTTERMAN EXCAVATING FOR 2010 CDBG-R DEMOLITION, CONTRACT A, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$167,300.00.**

**COMMENT:**

- RC-4** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7
- NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RC-5** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**COMMENTS:**

- MOTION:** Mr. Segina moved, seconded by MS. Diggs, "To adopt Bill #23."

**RC-6** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-19 – BILL #24: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ZAMBELLI FIREWORKS MANUFACTURING CORPORATION TO PROVIDE FOR THE FIREWORKS DISPLAY AT RENZIEHAUSEN PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,000.00.**

**MOTION:**      **Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Dellapenna, "To adopt Bill #24."**

**RC-7**      YEAS:      WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
    McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

                 NAYS:      NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-20 – BILL #25: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2010 AS "FAIR HOUSING MONTH" IN THE CITY OF McKEESPORT.**

**COMMENTS:**

- Mr. McLaughlin said are there any questions. He said when are they going to have a Senior Citizen's month.

**MOTION:**      **Mr. Tedesco moved, seconded by Mr. Segina, "To adopt Bill #25."**

**RC-8**      YEAS:      WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
    McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

                 NAYS:      NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-21 – BILL #26: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA,**

**APPROVING A REQUEST FROM CHRISTOPHER DULL, PENNZOIL QUICKLUBE, INC., 2500 FIFTH AVENUE, McKEESPORT, PA., FOR A REVERSE SUBDIVISION TO COMBINE LOTS #380-D-151 AND #380-D-156 INTO ONE LOT FOR EXPANSION OF BUSINESS.**

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Dellapenna, "To adopt Bill #26."**

**RC-9** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-22 – BILL #27: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH LOCKHART ALL SEASONS SERVICE FOR WEED AND VEGETATION CONTROL FOR A ONE YEAR TERM.**

**MOTION: Mr. Dellapenna moved, seconded by Mr. Tedesco, "To adopt Bill #27."**

**COMMENTS:**

- Mr. Segina said do they have an option on these contract extensions. He is actually talking about Bill #28 but it applies to this bill as well.
- Mr. Elash said yes, it is written into the agreements.
- Mr. Segina said on which one, Bill #27 or Bill #28.
- Mr. Elash said yes, both Bills. He said he believes the City's standard contract contains that language.

- Mr. Segina said then this can go on through perpetuity without any other bidders coming on to this.
- Mr. Elash said as long as they don't increase their price.
- Mr. Segina said did Mr. Elash look that up. He said it seems to circumvent the bidding process and that is why he is asking this.
- Mr. Elash said obviously if they go out to bid, both of these items involve fuel prices and things of that nature. He said it is obvious that the prices are going to go up if the services are put out to bid. He said these contracts as they were drafted originally contained clauses in them that if the prices were held, they could be extended. He said as they discussed in Council Chambers, he put these on the Agenda to give Council the option to give the City the authority to extend those contracts. He said if they would like it to go back out to bid, then they would simply vote no and put it back out to bid.
- Mr. Segina said he would like to see Bill #28 go out to bid, that is for sure. He said in these contracts where they are only going one year, he would rather see an option year on one and two if they want to go three years so that there is no problem with putting on an extension just by exercising an option. He said to him, that would be in the spirit of law and that is what they are trying to do here is go by the spirit of the law. He said right now it looks like they are circumventing it.
- Mr. Elash said he understands Mr. Segina's opinion but assures him that they are not running afoul of the law by doing that. He said they are not in violation of any State law.
- Mr. Segina said he doesn't want to go out of here in handcuffs.
- Mr. Elash said he doesn't think so. He said he watches the news and there is a lot of people going so you never know. He said

they can draft the contracts that way going forward in the future if that is the way Council would like to do it.

- Mr. Cherepko said he thinks they should do that but at the same time it is to their advantage. He said like Mr. Elash said chances are it is to their advantage that if they put these out to bid, the prices are going to go up and in the end they are saving money.
- Mr. Segina said that could be but what they are doing is endearing the spirit of bidding too. He said they want to let more vendors come in and bid because they might get a lower price. He said they don't know that. He said that is why they say they should go out to bid.

**RC-10** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-23 – BILL #28: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING PROPERTY CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT EXTENSION WITH SHIPMAN'S SANITATION SERVICE, INC. FOR PORTABLE RESTROOM RENTAL PROGRAM FOR A ONE YEAR PERIOD.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Dellapenna moved, seconded by Mr. Cherepko, "To adopt Bill #28."

**COMMENT:**

- Mr. Segina said the only thing he has to say about this is that he thinks he has been talking about this for three years now and the Mayor and he go back and forth on it. He said the Mayor usually wins anyway because he is the Mayor. He said he is thoroughly disgusted with Shipman's standard of service out there. He said he thinks they short change them as far as they

may be the lowest bid but they are not the best service as far as he is concerned. He said he wished they would open this up and get more bidders in there. He said he knows there is Mr. John's out there, Royal Flush is out there. He said they need to get some people to bid so they have competition. He said perhaps then they will get a better job from them.

- Mayor Brewster said since the media is here, they went out to bid last year and no one bid. He said if they want to go out to bid, that is fine, he doesn't care. He said he has bigger problems than outhouses. He said he really doesn't care. He said he is not going to spend any time debating it. He said if they want to go out to bid, fine. He said they did go out to bid last year. He said does Darryl understand that.
- Mr. Segina said there were people who were not contacted to say this was going out to bid.
- Mayor Brewster said they were Mr. Segina's friends, and he said he was going to contact Mr. Johns.
- Mr. Segina said why would he have to contact Mr. Johns.
- Mayor Brewster said because he used him at International Village. He said then why didn't he call him.
- Mr. Segina said he doesn't want to get into an argument over this. He said he is stating his belief and is trying to be nice about it.
- Mayor Brewster said Mr. Segina was not accurate and the people out here need to know that they went out to bid. He said the Controller is eyeballing him and he has seen that eye before. He said they went out to bid.
- Mr. Malinchak said what he does not understand is why are they trying to make a decision on whether they go out to bid or not. He said they should be asking this gentleman right here whether

the Home Rule Charter requires them to go out to bid. He said the answer is either yes or no. He said it is that simple.

- Mr. Elash said they are not required.
- Mr. Malinchak said then it is case closed.
- Mayor Brewster said he does not want to do that. He said he just wants to let people know they did go out to bid but did not have to. He said he does agree with Darryl, he is not happy with the service. He said Nick knows that and he agrees with Darryl one hundred percent. He said what he is trying to say is that when you go out to bid and no one bids, there is nothing else you can do. He said they did not have to go out to bid, but they did it anyway.
- Mr. Segina said next year they are going to go out to bid and he if they want him to, he will contact the other companies so they get an honest competitive bid.
- Mayor Brewster said they can go out to bid if they want.
- Mr. Tedesco said why wait until next year.
- Mayor Brewster said what he suggests they do, if they want to pay attention to these outhouses and go out to bid on them. He said they make judgments ... people walk by and say that is a mess down there. He said when five kids turned it over and did not use it the way it was supposed to be and went on the floor, he is not sure it is the carrier's fault.
- Mr. Segina said when the Mayor does contact them, then they get smart with them on the phone, that is another issue. He said when they call and say something needs picked up.
- Mayor Brewster said he doesn't know anyone who knows him who has not gotten smart with him once.

- Mr. Segina said he is an expert on outhouses as they know.
- Mr. Shermenti said he would like to comment on this.
- Mayor Brewster said he does agree with him on the service and they are going to watch that closely.
- Mr. Shermenti said last year they went out to bid and there were two bidders but the second bid came in a week late so they could not accept the bid. He said they were a wee bit higher than what Mr. Shipman was. He said do they have a problem, yes they did have a problem with one of the new toilets last year. He said toward the end of the season, it was terrible. He said a lot of these problems, the Mayor is right, people flip them over and things like that and there was feces in the inside and the company could not get back for the weekend. He said they had them come down twice a week. He said he personally talked to them and told them they would renew the contract if they would provide them. He said he told them if they would not provide them with the services, then they would not wait the year.
- Mayor Brewster said is there anything in the contract that says that they can get out of it. He said they should check.
- Mr. Elash said he does not have the contract in front of him but he would certainly imagine ....
- Mayor Brewster said if they don't perform then they should go out to bid.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he recommends that they table this.
- Mr. Shermenti said he has to have the outhouses out by the first of April.
- Mr. Segina said he does not want to disrupt that. He said that is not his purpose. He said he thinks the Mayor knows how he

feels about it and everyone else here knows how he feels about it. He said he is willing to bypass this and let it go through this year. He said there is no doubt about it, he does not use them but he will watch out for them. He said next year, he did raise his right or left hand and said he would go out to bid and get the other ones to compete and bid at the same time.

- Ms. Walker said if they are not satisfied with the service and go back out to bid, then will they still be able to put the outhouses out by April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Segina said the bidding process entails not only who is the cheapest, but who gives the best service. He said anyone can do it.
- Mr. Elash said the problem becomes with an item like this, they have to incur the cost of securing the outhouses, bringing them out and placing them and hiring a fleet to come out and service them. He said if the City tells them they might cancel them next month, they will not spend the money to put the outhouses down. He said he is sure the contract has a termination clause in it in case someone is not performing their duties under the contract. He said whether the actions they are talking about rise to that level, he would have to review the contract and give them a formal opinion.
- Mr. Segina said he doesn't know how many of these are turned over and he doesn't see why they are turned over. He said normally what they do is put rebar in them to hold them into place. He said they are nailed down and should not be able to be turned over.
- Mr. Tedesco said if these had to be out by April 1, why is this bill coming to them right now.
- Mayor Brewster said when did he want it.

- Mr. Tedesco said if these issues are here, shouldn't this have been given to them a month previous to give them some time.
- Mayor Brewster said he doesn't know how to respond to that. He said he has it know and that's when they get it.

**RC-11** YEAS: McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, DIGGS..... 3

NAYS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA, SEGINA..... 4

- Mr. Elash said is there a motion to direct the City to go out to bid or anything. He said without some other motion, they are not going to have outhouses at Renzie Park.
- Mayor Brewster said there still may not be.

**MOTION:**      **Mr. Tedesco moved, seconded by Mr. Segina, "To rebid the contract for the Portable Restroom Rental Program."**

**RC-12** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS..... 6

NAYS: McLAUGHLIN..... 1

- Mr. Pittman said he would like to ask a question. He said based on the vote they will be going out to bid. He said is it possible because of the logistics and the use of the park and the ballfields, would it be possible to take a voice vote of Council if they get a low bid that is acceptable by calling Council so they can deploy these things before the end of May. He said is that possible.
- Mr. Elash said can they preapprove a bid.
- Mr. Pittman said if the price comes in within the next ten days, is it possible for the City Clerk ....

- Mr. Elash said how are they going to get prices over the next ten days. He said they have to advertise it in the newspaper, and then wait 30 days to open the bids.
- Mr. Pittman said no, he doesn't think it has to be in the paper that long. He said he thinks it only needs to be in the paper a shorter time, such as 10 days.
- Mr. Segina said he makes a motion to give the Administration leeway as to the bidding process and to get these outhouses into the park as quickly as possible and let Council vote on it after they have been through the process and are in the park. He said they should trust the Administration on this.
- Mr. Pittman said he thinks if Patty and he put the ad tomorrow, they will have an answer back a week from Monday and can call everyone with the prices. He said if those prices are acceptable, then Nick would have authorization to get a vendor out there as quickly as possible still in the month of April.
- Mr. Cherepko said he thinks at this time they have to do it as quickly as possible.
- Mr. Elash said then they will vote at the next Council meeting to ratify the low bid.
- Mr. Segina said understand that at one time there were no outhouses anywhere in the park except for the ones that they had there in the concession stand and the band shell. He said and whatever tree you could find.
- Mr. Elash said they have a motion on the floor by Mr. Segina to allow the Administration to expedite the process

**MOTION:**      **Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, "To allow the Administration to expedite the bidding process with regard to the Portable Restroom Rental Program."**

**RC-13** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-23 – BILL #29: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH POWER CONTRACTING COMPANY FOR THE FIFTH AVENUE HOMETOWN STREETS PROJECT, ECMS #77250.**

**MOTION: Mr. Cherepko moved, seconded by Mr. Tedesco, "To adopt Bill #29."**

**RC-14** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-24 – BILL #30: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH POWER CONTRACTING COMPANY IN RELATION TO THE INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL FOR THE FIFTH AVENUE HOMETOWN STREETS PROJECT, ECMS #77250.**

**MOTION: Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Ms. Diggs, "To adopt Bill #30."**

**RC-15** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-25 – BILL #31: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICERS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH FERREE KENNELS FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$800.00 PER MONTH.**

**MOTION:**        **Mr. Dellapenna moved, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, "To adopt Bill #31."**

**COMMENTS:**

- Mr. Cherepko said he did address this bill last evening. He said he will be quite honest with them. He said he is not happy at all with a lot of the feedback he has been getting from when Mr. Ferree was taking care of this for the City previously. He said he really put a lot of thought into this last night and said there is no way he could vote for this. He said with some reservations he is now leaning towards voting for this now and there are a few reasons. He said he wants to be very clear. He said first, it is a month-to-month contract and if they are not satisfied with the service a month from now and address this issue once again. He said he thinks the biggest thing that Mr. Ferree needs to understand is that he is providing a service to the citizens of the City and at the same time, he represents each and every one of them here. He said he thinks Mr. Ferree needs to keep that in mind and make sure that he acts in a respectful manner. He said with that and the fact that the Police Department is also recommending Mr. Ferree because of the response time he has which allows them to conduct their job better, which he thinks is very important. He said there are a lot of things going on in this City and they don't need their officers wasting time sitting around while they wait for the dogcatcher. He said it is with some reservations that he is going to vote for this tonight but he hopes that Mr. Ferree sincerely takes this to heart and keeps these things in his mind when he is conducting his business. He

said nothing will make him happier than to look back and say he is glad he voted for this.

- Mr. McLaughlin said he has one question for Mr. Ferree. He said if he has to put an animal down, is he going to use a shot.
- Mr. Ferree said yes, they have acquired a local Vet. He said until such time they will be applying to the Drug Enforcement Agency in Washington to reinstitute their license for their Schedule 2, 3, and 4 narcotics for the City.

**RC-16** YEAS: DELLAPENNA, McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO,  
SEGINA ..... 4

NAYS: WALKER, TEDESCO, SEGINA ..... 3

- Mr. Elash said he thinks Mr. Ferree would like to address Council for a moment.
- Mr. McLaughlin said he may.
- Mr. Ferree said if he may briefly, although he knows he is out of order and not customary, but he is most grateful for this Resolution passing. He said not only as a small businessman but also as a homeowner in this City. He said he is someone who does care about the City as well as the newly formed Grandview Task Force. He said he hopes to be an active member in that. He said he would like to donate their first month's standard \$800 service charge to the McKeesport Police Department in lieu of a purchase of a vest.
- Mr. McLaughlin said thank you very much.
- Mr. Segina said he was one of the ones who voted no against him. He said his vote is merely to put him on notice that they all discussed this and there is some dissatisfaction with him. He said that is why the contract is on a month-to-month basis rather than a one-year basis. He said he hopes Mr. Ferree

takes that part of it to heart and provide the service that they are asking in a respectful mannerly way so that they don't have to come back and take complaints from residents in the City. He said they don't want to hear from them, they just want to get the job done.

- Mr. Ferree said he won't take any more of their time but it is unfortunate that some people have formed opinions about certain things and certain people. He said there is no change in the payments unfortunately. He said it is fortunate for him that he is able to provide a different insight to maybe squash that opinion.
- Mr. Segina said they are not really looking at opinions, they are looking at the number of calls they get. He said he thinks the Mayor would attest to that as far as him or Dennis getting calls or anyone of them getting calls. He said opinions don't matter, everyone has one, they just don't want to hear complaints. He said he knows why they are saying that. He said Mr. Ferree needs to conduct himself in a respectful manner.
- Mr. Ferree said everyone complaints about everything but legitimate complaints are legitimate complaints, just like with the Police Department deals with complaints from anyone or the Police Officers.
- Mr. Segina said his vote was to put him on notice.
- Mr. Cherepko said he is looking to the future. He said nothing will make him happier to know he voted that way and knowing that he is a local business man.
- Mr. Ferree said he believes the contract shows that he is willing to try and change, adapt, and overcome all that past. He said thank you.

**RESOLUTION #2010-26 – BILL #32: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH DONEGAL CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION FOR THE WEST FIFTH AVENUE ROADWAY RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT, ECM #86896.**

**MOTION:**       **Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Cherepko, "To adopt Bill #32."**

**COMMENT:**

- Mr. Segina said this is a good company. He said they did West Fifth Avenue the last time, 15 years ago. He said it is ironic that they are still in business and still doing a good job too. He said they do a great job milling too.

**RC-17**   YEAS:     WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
                              McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

          NAYS:     NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-27 – BILL #33: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE THE ATTACHED AGREEMENT WITH THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, RELATING TO THE FIFTH AVENUE STREETSCAPE – McKEESPORT PROJECT.**

**MOTION:**       **Mr. Cherepko moved, seconded by Mr. McLaughlin, "To adopt Bill #33."**

**COMMENTS:**

- Mr. Segina said what is this for. He said he forgot.

- Mr. Elash said it is for the downtown. He said they are adding \$500,000 to the Hometown Streets Project in order to complete the project.
- Mr. Segina said as long as they are adding, that is okay.
- Mr. Pittman said they had \$929,000 originally and they increased it to \$1.5 million.
- Mr. Elash said that is Bill #32 he is talking about.
- Mr. Segina said they are on Bill #33.
- Mr. Pittman said Bill #32 is to do the construction on the streets and Bill #33 is to get a reimbursement agreement to do Hometown Streets and they added \$500,000 and they are accepting the money.
- Mr. Elash said this agreement does not represent a dollar amount though. He said Mr. Segina is asking why are they passing this agreement because it does not have a dollar amount in it.
- Mayor Brewster said what is the question.
- Mr. Elash said the question is what is this. He said this is an agreement between the City and PennDOT so that the City pays the money and then the City will submit requests to PennDOT as the project goes on and PennDOT will reimburse it.
- Mr. Segina said this is for the downtown area.
- Mayor Brewster said it is for Fifth Avenue.
- Mr. Elash said they have to print the money because they have already approved those loans.
- Mayor Brewster said he would like to remind Council of this. He said that since they have gotten past the very difficult task of

outhouses, they must get to these more serious issues. He said they had to go out and borrow money. He said they are borrowing \$1.5 million and then as you spend it they reimburse the City. He said they have to borrow the money.

**RC-18** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
NAYS: NONE..... 0

**AMEND THE AGENDA:**

**MOTION:** Mr. Cherepko moved, seconded by Ms. Diggs,  
"To amend the Agenda to include Bill #34."

**RC-19** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
NAYS: NONE..... 0

**RESOLUTION #2010-28 – BILL #34: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF McKEESPORT, ALLEGHENY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING THE PROPER CITY OFFICIALS TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH ALLEGHENY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$250,000.00 FROM THE COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE AND TOURISM FUND FOR THE MARSHALL DRIVE EXTENSION PROJECT.**

**MOTION:** Mr. Cherepko moved, seconded by Mr. Segina,  
"To adopt Bill #34."

**RC-20** YEAS: WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

NAYS: NONE..... 0

**CONTROLLER'S REPORT:**

- Mr. Malinchak said he has a couple of questions. He said does Mr. Pittman have a progress report on when Delta Financial may present their findings to Council.
- Mr. Pittman said he believes they have interviewed all the Department Heads at this point. He said Ms. Bauer was interviewed the Thursday before Easter and he thinks she was the last one. He asked the Chief if they have interviewed in the Police Department.
- Mayor Brewster said that should be finishing up this month.
- Mr. Malinchak said the reason he asked is because he thinks the Mayor has something in mind for him. He said does Mr. Pittman have a progress report on how the audit report is coming along.
- Mr. Pittman said he is reviewing the Balance Sheet items on expenditures and revenues and that should be completed by April 15.
- Mr. Malinchak said for once since he has been there, they are going to meet the deadline.
- Mr. Pittman said in draft form, ready for review on the 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Mr. Malinchak said there was a lot of discussion this evening on Mr. Segina's favorite topic. He said this is what amuses the Controller. He said he has timed it here and there was about 18 minutes of discussion about outhouses. He said he wishes Council would discuss getting an insurance broker for a \$2 million premium with the same enthusiasm as the outhouses were discussed.

- Mr. McLaughlin said but Ray always beats that 18 minutes when he talks, he goes 22 minutes.
- Mr. Segina said what is he talking about an insurance broker – for what?
- Mayor Brewster said he forgot already.
- Mr. Malinchak said he will tell Mr. McLaughlin that he has been waiting for at least 4 meetings and Rege said they were going to go in the back room and talk about that and he is still waiting. He said does the Mayor remember that. He recommends that Council approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$111,417.86.

**MOTION:      Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Tedesco, "To approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$111,417.86."**

**RC-21      YEAS:**      WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
    McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7

**NAYS:**      NONE..... 0

- Mr. Elash said he needs a motion to appoint Dennis Pittman as the official delegate to the Tax Claim Bureau and the Mayor as the official alternate delegate to the Tax Claim Bureau.
- Mayor Brewster said this Tax Claim thing was a very, very important thing. He said so that the public knows, the County has been broken up into four districts and McKeesport is in the Southwest District. He said there are 35 communities and school districts. He said they all have to get together and elect this and they are going to collect the wage tax that the City now collects.

**MOTION:**        **Mr. Segina moved, seconded by Mr. Cherepko,  
"To appoint Dennis Pittman as the Official  
Delegate and Mayor Brewster as the Official  
Alternate Delegate to the Tax Claim Bureau."**

**RC-22**    YEAS:     WALKER, TEDESCO, DELLAPENNA,  
                              McLAUGHLIN, CHEREPKO, SEGINA, DIGGS ..... 7  
  
              NAYS:     NONE..... 0

**ADJOURNMENT:**

President of Council Regis McLaughlin adjourned the meeting at  
8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Williams  
City Clerk and Clerk of Council

APPROVED:

Regis T. McLaughlin  
President of City Council

daw